THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The cost of production of agricultural products depends, *inter alia,* on yield rate (production rate). The Government has taken several steps to increase yield rate of various agricultural crops. Important among them are promoting intensive agriculture like integrated Cereals Development Programme in rice based, wheat based and coarse cereals based cropping systems areas. The Government also gives subsidy for various inputs such as sprinklers and drip irrigation to small farmers to encourage them to take up intensive agriculture. Some of these schemes have been brought under a Macro-Management Scheme to give flexibility to States in the implementation of the scheme as per their respective local requirements. These measures are expected to increase yield rate which in turn would reduce the cost of production. Besides, Government have launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) and National Watershed Development Programme (NEDP) which would increase area under irrigation.

(d) The yield rates by irrigated/non-irrigated land are not maintained at all-India level. However, since production cost is inversely proportional to yield rate, higher yield rate, citrus-peribus, leads to lower cost of production.

MSP of crops

3183. SHRI SURENDRA LATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have raised the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of some crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal to enhance the MSP of oilseeds and pulses was under the consideration of Government; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement that proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d)The Government have recently announced the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for kharif crops including kharif oilseeds and pulses of 2003-04 season. A Statement showing the increase in the MSPs for kharif crops of 2003-04 season over the last season is enclosed (See below). The designated public and

cooperative agencies like the Food Corporation of India (FCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), National Agricultural marketing Cooperative Federation (NAFED) and Tobacco Board besides other agencies designated by the State Governments are required to intervene in the market for undertaking price support operations in case market prices fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government.

Statement

Increase in the Minimum Support Price for Kharif crops of 2003-04 *season over the last season*

(Rs. Per quintal)

Commodity	Variety	MSP fixed for 2003-04	Increase in MSP over last season's MSP
		550	20
	Grade-A	580	20
Jowar		505	20
Bajra		505	20
Maize		505	20
Ragi		505	
Tur(Arhar)		1360	40
Moong		1370	40
Urad		1370	40
Groundnut-in-shell		1400	45
Soyabean	Yellow	930	45
	Black	840	45
Sunflower Seed		1250	55
Sesamum		1485	35
Nigerseed		1155	35
Cotton	F-414/J-34/H-777	1725	50
H-4		1925	50